

Fold an Emerald Ash Borer

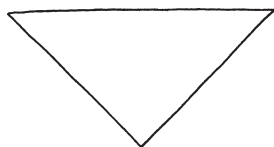
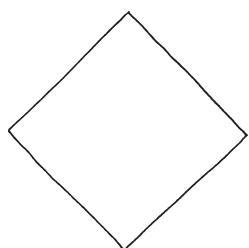
Emerald ash borers have lived in Japan, Taiwan, North Korea, South Korea, and China for a long time. Recently, they invaded North America's forests. They probably got here hidden in wooden packing materials. Without predators and diseases to keep their populations in check, emerald ash borers are rapidly killing all the ash trees in their path. Learn to recognize this beetle and don't give it a free ride anywhere!

Here's what you'll need!

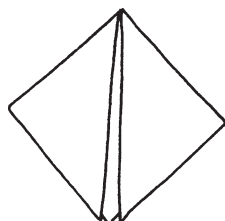
You can fold an emerald ash borer from any paper, but green metallic paper will look the best. Green foil wrapping paper looks very cool! Start with an exact square. The larger the square, the larger the beetle *and* the easier to fold. Try at least a six inch square of scrap paper for your first attempt.

Here's what you'll do!

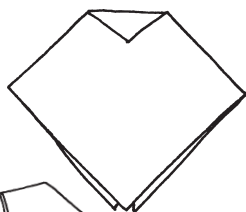
1. Place the paper shiny side down. Fold it in half, bringing the top point down to meet the bottom point. Make a sharp crease.



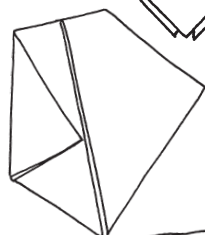
2. Now fold the left and right points down. Leave a slight gap in between the two triangles. These triangles will become the wings.



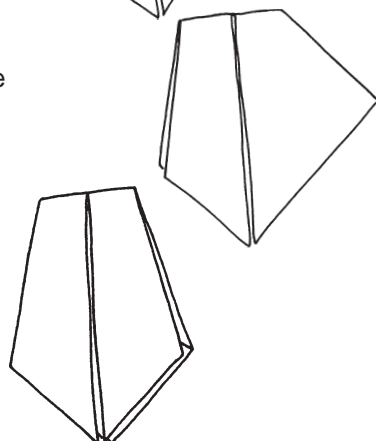
3. Turn the paper over and fold the top point down as shown. Make a sharp crease.



4. Turn the paper over. Make a fold on the lines shown and crease sharply.



5. Lift up the left side. Reverse the fold and push it almost to the center of the beetle. Press down so the beetle lays flat. Repeat with the right wing.



6. Turn the paper over. Fold the left side in at an angle as shown. Repeat with the right.

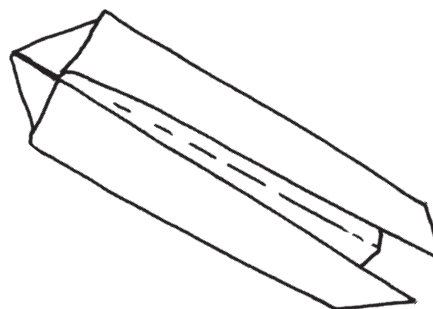


7. To make the beetle's head, fold the top point back up, making a second crease just below the first crease.



8. To make the tip of the beetle's abdomen, fold the bottom point up.

9. Turn the beetle over. Fold the body in half, then open the paper until it is not quite flat.



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Where in the world?

Emerald ash borers and origami both originated in Asia. Origami is the ancient Japanese art of paper folding. It began in the sixth century when Buddhist monks brought the first paper to Japan from China. The Japanese were impressed and called the thin, flat sheets **-kami**, meaning paper. Because paper was very rare and expensive, it was folded (**ori-**) into designs only for ceremonies and special celebrations.



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, June 2006